

THEODORE B. STARR,

206 Fifth Avenue.

Goldsmith, Silversmith and
Jeweler, Diamond Merchant
and Dealer in Precious Stones,
Solid Silver, Fine Porcelains
and Bronzes.

THE CAPITOL BESIEGED.

TREMENDOUS CROWDS CAME TO HEAR
THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE READ.

THE THROUGHS BITTERLY DISAPPOINTED WHEN
THE EXPECTED DOCUMENT WAS NOT
FORTHCOMING—MEMBERS OF CON-
GRESS, HOWEVER, GENER-
ALLY READY TO TRUST
THE PRESIDENT.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

Washington, April 6.—It is an old story to tell about the rush and push and scramble of crowds of people who besiege the House of Representatives on such a day as this has been. It is to be observed, however, that so big a crowd has seldom been seen in and around that part of the Capitol as that which began to assemble four hours before noon, when Congress was to assemble, and an hour later had blocked every stairway outside and inside the building and poured a resistless flood of humanity through the corridors and packed the galleries with a breathless and perspiring multitude. Into space which was designed for two thousand people half as many more were squeezed, and they congratulated themselves that they were more fortunate than their neighbors, who could not get in at all. The smallest part of the crowd was in the galleries. Twenty times as many people were outside, unable to gain admission, and all eager and anxious to see and hear. Such a crowd, in respect to size and earnestness and anxiety, has not been seen in and around the Representatives' chamber since the decision of the disputed electoral count in 1877, but, of course, the people to-day were swayed by different sentiments and emotions from those which actuated the men who besieged the Capitol twenty-one years ago.

THE SCENE WHEN THE HOUSE MET.

When the House was called to order nearly every seat was occupied. In one of them sat Calista A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, who was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives seven years ago, after eleven States had seceded from the Union and Spain had recognized the belligerency of the Southern Confederacy. In a seat on the opposite side of the chamber sat Joseph E. Wheeler, of Alabama, a graduate of the United States Military Academy, who rose to the rank of Lieutenant-General in the Confederate Army. They are both as patriotic and as eager to uphold the Union to-day as they were when they were young men, whose knowledge of war and its sacrifices and horrors has been derived from books and the recitals of men older than themselves.

Looking down on the members as they hasten to their seats a little before noon the practiced observer notes that they appear graver and seem to feel a greater weight of responsibility than usual. The members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs come in late from a session in which they have listened to the solemn testimony of Rear Admiral Irwin, of the Navy, in the course of which he set forth in detail the reasons for his conclusion that the destruction of the Maine was due to Spanish official treachery, and that the murder of the officers and sailors on that ill-fated ship was the act of Spanish official assassins. This testimony has so impressed the members of the committee that they are ready and willing to heed the caution that it will be wiser not to take another step until Consul-General Lee and his official associates and other American citizens in Cuba shall have an opportunity to escape from like dangers.

NECESSITY FOR DELAY REALIZED.

The Republicans are eager for immediate action to put an end to Spanish misrule and cruelty in Cuba also come in late from a conference held behind closed doors, and they also have heard the tenor of Consul-General Lee's dispatch indicating the peril of the situation and the necessity of some delay in order to avoid the sacrifice of the lives of American citizens in Cuba to the fury of Spanish malice and the dikes of Spanish assassins. These Republicans are willing to wait, and so, too, are those Democrats who are not playing for paltry partisan stakes. Nearly everybody seems clearly to realize at last that the United States is again called upon to deal with a situation somewhat like that which has confronted it in the past in its dealings with the Apaches and other Indian tribes.

But the big crowds in the galleries who have assembled to hear the President's message read know nothing of the reasons for the delay, and they are happily spared the infliction of a thousand contradictory and absurd rumors which buzz in the ears of members and fly through the lower corridors and set a few newspaper men wild with excitement. Minutes grow to hours before the standing and sitting crowds who have held their ground begin to thin out and disperse, exhausted and disappointed.

CONFIDENCE IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Of course, there was no lack of angry criticism on the part of members of the House on account of the postponement of the message. Everybody was disappointed, and not a few seemed willing to believe that the Administration was taking advantage of an insufficient, if not a "manufactured," pretext to gain further delay. A few Republicans were at first inclined to share this belief, and they made many comments, but the House as a whole, Democrats as well as Republicans, took a different and saner view of the matter, and acquiesced in the Administration of a purposeful desire to avoid Congress or the country.

IN THE SENATE.

When the Senate met to-day intense expectancy, amounting to excitement, prevailed both on the floor and in the galleries. The President's message had been positively promised, and its coming was awaited with great anxiety. Ten minutes after the Senate met consideration of the Sundry Civil bill was resumed, and with the exception of eight minutes spent in executive session, in which Senator Davis announced the message would be sent in to-day, almost the entire session was consumed by that measure. It was practically completed when laid aside for the day.

THE ARMY BILL IN THE HOUSE.

SOME OPPOSITION MANIFESTED ON ACCOUNT OF ITS ALLEGED HOSTILITY TO THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Washington, April 6.—As the hands of the clock pointed to 12 o'clock Rep. J. B. McMillan, of the green-haired band leading from the lobby of the House and ascended the rostrum. With two weeks of the gavel the great multitude was hushed. The members and many of the spectators in the gallery arose and stood with bowed heads as the blind old man prayed for the Divine aid in this day's deliberations. The understanding on the floor soon after the House assembled was that the message would not be sent to Congress until 2 o'clock, and the members settled in their seats to wait with what patience they could for it to appear. In the packed galleries this fact was not known, and the occupants momentarily expected its appearance. As the families of many of the members could not obtain

admission to the galleries, Mr. Bailey asked if the Speaker could entertain a request that the members be permitted to bring their families on the floor. The Speaker answered in the negative. The rules strictly prohibited him from entertaining such a request.

It having been arranged last Friday that the Army Reorganization bill should be a special order for to-day (not to interfere with the report from the Committee on Foreign Affairs), the Speaker recognized Mr. Hull, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, to call it up.

A wrangle followed as to whether the bill should be considered in Committee of the Whole or in the House, and as to the limits of the debate. The Rules Committee, however, intervened, and it was agreed that the bill should be considered in the House, but all efforts to arrange a limit for debate failed, owing to the objection of Mr. March (D., Ill.).

Mr. Hull explained the features and purposes of the bill and the advantages of the proposed three-year term. The present formation, he said, was absolutely obsolete, and it would be a matter of time before the Army of the United States would be reduced to a mere skeleton. The bill would provide for a permanent force of 100,000 men, and it would be a matter of time before the Army of the United States would be reduced to a mere skeleton.

Mr. March (D., Ill.) opposed the bill, because he believed it was inimical to the volunteer service of the United States. In that view, he thought, the bill should be rejected. The Regular Army, he thought, should not be increased, but it was proposed in the bill to increase it from 100,000 to 150,000 men.

When the report was circulated and confirmed that there would be no message to-day there was a sensation in the galleries, and the members of the House began to leave. The bill was not taken up, and the House adjourned. The bill was not taken up, and the House adjourned.

SCENES IN THE SENATE.

IMMENSE CROWDS PRESENT—AN EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD—DEBATE ON THE SUNDY CIVIL BILL.

Washington, April 6.—A memorable scene was presented at the opening of the Senate to-day. An audience that testified to the fact that the Senate was a place where the people could see and hear the nation's business was held in the galleries. The Senate was a place where the people could see and hear the nation's business. The Senate was a place where the people could see and hear the nation's business.

A BRIEF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

At 12 o'clock Mr. Davis, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, called the Senate to order. The Senate was a place where the people could see and hear the nation's business. The Senate was a place where the people could see and hear the nation's business.

THE MAINS CHAPLAIN PROMOTED.

FATHER CHIDWICK RECEIVES A LIEUTENANT'S COMMISSION FROM SECRETARY LONG—SAYS THE PRESIDENT IS RIGHT.

The Rev. John P. Chidwick, chaplain of the United States battleship Maine, reached the city on Tuesday. He had been in Havana, where he had been the chaplain of the Maine, since the disaster on February 15. He is at the rectory of St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church, in Twenty-eighth street, Third-avenue, with which parish he was connected when he was appointed chaplain.

TO BE OPEN TO-MORROW.

PRODUCE AND COFFEE EXCHANGES FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Produce Exchange and the Coffee Exchange followed the course of the Stock and Cotton exchanges in deciding to open for the transaction of business to-morrow, in view of the extreme uncertainty of the international situation. The Produce Exchange opened on Monday yesterday, and the Coffee Exchange followed suit.

MARINE WAR RISKS ADVANCED.

At the office of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company it was said yesterday that there was little or no change from Tuesday on marine war risk premiums, except that in a few isolated cases a slight increase in the rates had been made. Some of the other large underwriters, whose rates have not been advanced, were said to be in the same position.

PROPOSAL TO SEND WARSHIPS TO HAVANA.

Washington, April 6.—Representative Jones, of Washington, to-day introduced a joint resolution to protect American in Cuba. It directs the President immediately to order all vessels of war of the United States in the vicinity of Cuba to proceed to Havana without delay to protect all American citizens there and to bring away in safety all who desire to leave the island.

ROOSEVELT ARGUES THE PERSONNEL BILL.

Washington, April 6.—Assistant Secretary Roosevelt was before the House Committee on Naval Affairs to-day, explaining the Navy Personnel bill. He urged immediate enactment of the bill into law.

"THE TRUE CRITERION" IS QUALITY.

For comparison we quote the prices paid for Champagnes in England, where QUALITY establishes the market value.

	1897	1898
POMMERY	135	97
MOET & CHANDON	103	77
G. H. MUMM	101	75

A signature of the Paris Convention has caused considerable discussion as to the possibility of privateering in the event of war. It has been suggested that the United States should attempt to treat privateers as pirates. An official of the State Department said to-day, however, that no real fears are entertained on this ground. He pointed out that it has been held by the best authorities on international law that the declaration of Paris that "privateering is abolished" is merely a contract, and cannot affect international law, consequently no nation by reason of its having signed the Paris treaty can treat privateers of non-signatories as pirates, nor is it prohibited from using privateers itself when at war with a nation not a member of the Paris Convention.

SPANISH REPORT ON THE MAINE.

SENOR DU BOUC SAYS HIS GOVERNMENT IS READY TO SUBMIT THE MATTER TO ARBITRATION.

Washington, April 6.—Senor Du Bouc, who was in charge of the Spanish Legation during the period immediately following the Maine disaster, to-day authorized the following statement:

"The report of the Spanish Commission which investigated the Maine disaster has not yet had time to reach Madrid from Havana. Nevertheless, standing this, the Spanish Government is ready to submit the evidence of both sides to the impartial judgment of the expert opinion of the maritime nations of the world."

MOVEMENTS OF WARSHIPS.

THE AMPHITRITE SAILS TO JOIN CAPTAIN SAMPSON'S FLEET—NEW NAMES FOR AUXILIARY VESSELS.

Washington, April 6.—Captain Sampson's big war fleet at Key West will be still further strengthened in a day or two by the arrival of the double-turreted monitor Amphitrite, which left Beaufort this morning for that port.

The New York and New Jersey converted into a militia warship, left the New York Navy Yard this morning for Key West, for service with Captain Sampson's fleet.

The gunboat Wheeling, of the Pacific station, arrived at Nantuxco, B. C., yesterday.

Several of the vessels recently purchased by the Navy Department have received new names, more in accordance with the policy of the department. The Albatross, received by transfer from the Revenue Cutter Service, is to be called, while en route to the Pacific, the Albatross.

The Mayflower, received by transfer from the Lighthouse Service, is to be called, while en route to the Pacific, the Mayflower.

The yacht Scorpion, acquired by purchase, is to be called the Scorpion.

The gunboat Albatross, purchased in England, to be called the Albatross.

The small unnamed torpedo boat, purchased in England, to be called the Albatross.

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SENATORS FOR RECOGNITION.

ONLY TWO MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FAVOR THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

Washington, April 6.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee met at 10 o'clock this morning, but only five members were present at that hour. The discussion as to changing the Cuban resolution to meet the recommendations of the President was resumed. The committee soon secured a quorum and took up the work before it. It was recognized that it would be difficult and really not desirable to decide absolutely upon a course to be pursued until the President's message should be laid before the committee, but it was felt that important preliminary work could be done in arriving at the sentiment of the members of the committee.

A difference of opinion developed as to the advisability of yielding to the President's wishes and giving up the recognition of Cuban independence, and it was found that there would be difficulties in the way of pursuing this course, as some of the members appeared quite determined not to consent to a reconsideration of the first decision to incorporate both the independence and the intervention features in the resolution. The members who had been present at yesterday's executive session of the Senate reported an evident determination on the part of members to embody the independence feature in whatever resolution might be reported, or at least secure a division of the Senate on this point.

On the other hand, it was contended that only the President could recognize independence under the Constitution, and it was asked what course Senators who held that view and still advocated independence would pursue when confronted with a demand by Congress to take this step. The reply was that they could vote for the resolution, still leaving it to the President to sign and execute it as he may see fit. It was argued that if the United States should recognize independence and then go to war to secure it, and succeed in defeating and driving the Spaniards out of Cuba, it would still be in a position to dictate terms with the Cubans.

The assertion was also made that the United States would be stronger before the civilized world in not appearing to want to annex the islands, and it was asserted that this appearance would greatly strengthen it in the adoption of a policy looking to the independence of the Cuban Republic.

The committee took a recess at 12 o'clock without making any conclusion. Expressing an opinion among members developed the fact that Senators Frye and Lodge stand alone in thinking that a change should be made, eliminating independence from the Cuban resolution. The committee's original decision for both independence and intervention, unless there should be some change from present conditions before the vote is taken.

At the meeting of the committee to-day the question of Cuban bonds was raised by Senator Foraker, who said that he had heard it indicated that there was speculation in Cuban bonds behind his resolution declaring for the recognition of Cuban independence. This, he said, was not true in any respect, and he added that he had no knowledge when the resolution was adopted that there were any Cuban bonds out. He had investigated the question since, however, and had learned that only \$750,000 worth of Cuban bonds had been sold. This, even, the Senator said, was a disastrous loss, and he did not consider it sufficient to influence the course of events.

Mr. Foraker then stated that there was another point in the bond question to which he desired to call attention. He said that the resolution was a possibility of the United States having to assume responsibility for the payment of the interest, if not the principal, on the Spanish bonds secured by the Cuban revolutionaries. He stated that there was no less than \$400,000,000 worth of these Spanish bonds.

WITH THE FLYING SQUADRON.

REPORT OF SEALED ORDERS DENIED—LATING MINES IN HAMPTON ROADS.

Fort Monroe, Va., April 6 (Special).—Information was received at Old Point this afternoon to the effect that the flying squadron had been placed under sealed orders, and probably would put to sea during the next twenty-four hours. This report was denied by several officers, although it has been evident all day that unusual activity prevailed aboard the ships. The Massachusetts is still at Newport News. The Texas is not expected until to-morrow night.

The Seaboard Air Line's box boat, having on board ships, anchors and other apparatus for the planting of submarine mines, left her moorings about noon to-day, and was towed to the Cape. It is said, accompanied by the cableship Maine, belonging to the Anglo-American Cable Company. The officers of both vessels declined to give out the positive purpose of the trip, although it is well known here. The boat carries only a few mines, as the work will necessarily be slow. More anchors arrived to-day on flatcars over the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

It is settled now that Newport News will be one of the hospital stations to be used in case the ships in the medical service become overcrowded. An officer from the Brooklyn stated to-day that no information had been received as to the designation of a hospital ship for the flying squadron, the Creole having been assigned to the Key West squadron. The Navy Department had hoped to secure the Plant Line steamer La Grande Duchesse for Commodore Schley's fleet, but at the shipyard to-day it was stated that the palatial craft had not been sold, and, furthermore, would not be disposed of.

Harpies have been alongside the cruisers to-day filling their coal bunkers. It being Commodore Schley's intention to have them coaled to their full capacity and ready for any emergency. The pilot-houses on the Brooklyn, the Massachusetts and the Columbia were painted yesterday. The Minnesota is still in an unshipped state in this respect. The Government tug Juanita ran alongside the Massachusetts this afternoon and relieved the battleship of unnecessary chests and personal effects. Massachusetts is expected to join the squadron at any hour.

Commanders of the warships in these waters are having trouble with unruly seamen who persist in defying their liberty, protesting with the notion of deserting. Petty officers from the ships make frequent visits to the jails in this vicinity in the hope of finding sailors who have been arrested for disorderly conduct and drunkenness.

THE SHIPPING INTERESTS OF NEWPORT NEWS AND NORFOLK HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE WAR.

March is usually the heaviest export month for Newport News, and the value of foreign trade was estimated at \$5,000,000, whereas it barely reached \$3,400,000.

NOT PLEASED BY THE PEACE NEWS.

THE FLEET AT KEY WEST ANXIOUS TO SHOW THEIR METTLE IN A WAR.

Key West, Fla., April 6.—Intense disappointment was exhibited by all hands on board the flagship New York when the Associated Press bulletin regarding the reported settlement at Madrid was read.

Until 6 o'clock this evening it was confidently believed that the fleet would sail to-morrow or Friday for Havana or Porto Rico, and the peace news came like a bombshell.

Captain Sampson read the dispatch with eager interest, after which it was read at the messes. He believes that there is still a chance that the American Navy may have an opportunity to show what it is capable of, but he regrets that the fleet will not be enabled to bring to bear the full force of its armaments.

On board the New York, received orders to-day transferring him to the receiving ship Franklin.

THE DIOGENES TO JOIN THE SOMERS.

Gravesend, England, April 6.—The United States cruiser, Lieutenant John J. Kipp in command, passed here at 3:40 p. m. to-day, bound for Weymouth, where the United States torpedo-

AMERICAN LITERATURE

By HENRY JAMES

The first of a series of contributions on American Literature by Henry James, is to be found in this week's issue of the new International Gazette of Criticism.

LITERATURE

Of this Periodical the N. Y. Mail and Express said:

"It has been a success from the beginning. The book reviews have been discriminating and well written; the special articles have been of a high order, and its original poetical contributions especially meritorious. The department of literary notes has contained a wealth of interesting items to the book reader and the student of literature."

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boat Somers, commanded by Ensign C. W. Hazelton, arrived on Monday.

London, April 6.—Lieutenant W. S. Sims will shortly start for the United States, the United States Naval Attaché in London, while the latter recuperates.

AWAITING THE NEW-ORLEANS.

THE NEW CRUISER CARRIES A LARGE AMOUNT OF MUNITIONS OF WAR PURCHASED ABROAD—PROCEEDINGS IN LOCAL ARMY CIRCLES.

Some important additions to the armament of seacoast fortifications may arrive from England to-day by the new cruiser New-Orleans, formerly the Amazon, which was purchased abroad before she was completed for the Brazilian Navy. There was shipped on her a cargo of rapid-fire guns and ammunition weighing four hundred and fifty tons. The guns include thirty-two Nordenfolds, and Maxim rifles, and some of other patterns. The New-Orleans also has some supplies for the Navy Department, and it is believed that she will be sent to the Navy Yard to unload these first. Then the munitions for the War Department will be taken by lighter to the arsenal on Governors Island. The shells will have to go to Fort Wadsworth to be loaded, and then both guns and their projectiles will be distributed among the various fortifications which need them most. Some will be sent to Long Island Head, Boston, Fort Adams, Newport, Forts Wadsworth, Hamilton and Hancock, and the rest further down the coast. A contract was awarded yesterday for the shipment of a new 10-inch rapid-fire gun from Colt Spring, N. Y., to Sandy Hook, where it will be tested before it is mounted. Its weight is sixty-seven thousand pounds, and it is not yet decided where it is most needed.

Captain James Allen, chief signal officer at Governor's Island, said yesterday that the preparations were well advanced for giving complete electrical equipment to all the forts in the harbor. Submarine cables and underground wires have been laid connecting all the forts with the shore. There is with each other so that instant communication by both telephone and telegraph would be possible. A large amount of wire had been put in place for connections with submarine mines, and the dynamo were being put in place for the searchlights which will be made use of in all the forts. The Manufacturers' Building at the World's Fair, in London, was used as a model for the design of the new searchlight. The dynamo and wires used with it are still at Sandy Hook, and a new mine will be put up there to test the place.